

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 11, 2006 LB 129, 1024

proposal into and deal with that because I would certainly support it in that form. Putting it on this bill messes it up. You know, when the OPS suit was filed, I had my administrative assistant overlay the senators who had districts that were Omaha Public Schools in their entirety, and it became readily apparent to me that OPS wasn't looking for a legislative solution. And I really commend the senators, you know, and their lobbyist who called in a play from the sideline here, you know, well done, well done. But we shouldn't be doing it this way. Let's go through the legislative process. There will be an amendment filed if you choose to take that up and not vote to overrule the Chair that will deal specifically with the Heidemann amendment, which I think gets to some of the problems we all have with this kind of a deal being put together. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Erdman. Senator Erdman waives. Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I just wanted to make a comment on Senator Heidemann's amendment and the fact that I was a member of the...or am a member of the Education Committee. And the original LB 1024 as Senator Raikes introduced it did have a section on funding. But there were a number of us that came to him and said, we want to narrow the focus. We had LB 129 which was the school finance bill and that we thought it was more appropriate if we addressed the funding possibly in that. There were a number of other issues that Senator Raikes took out. I mean, we compromised in what we put out of the committee. I wanted to make that known that this isn't really a new issue because we did...the original bill did include some funding issues. So...and again, I just wanted to emphasize that actually we are talking about four basic things in this bill. We are talking about boundaries remaining. We are talking about that learning community council which will start in September of this year. We are talking about the task force and one of the amendments includes the integration piece and that if districts don't come together in two years that their boundaries will be dissolved. We're also talking about that high needs coordinator. Basically we're talking about the same things, those four basic things. However, we do have the Heidemann amendment also now included in